Appl. No.10/652,651
Applicants: Brouard, Marcel and Perron, Raymond

Art Unit: 1771
Examiner: Elizabeth M. Cole

In The United States Patent and Trademark Office

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING [37 CFR 1-8 (a)]
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OCTOBER 4, 2007 — Marcel Brouard

Date — Marcel Brouard, Inventor

In matter of:

Serial Number	: 10/652,651
Applicant	: Marcel Brouard
Appn. Filed	: 09/02/2003
Appn. Title	: Shear and water resistant felt pad for furniture legs
Examiner	: Elizabeth Cole
Group Art Unit	: 1771

Quebec City, Wednesday, October 03, 2007

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. BOX 1450
Alexandria, VA
22313-1450

DECLARATION

I, Marcel Brouard, inventor,

declare that I have carried out a number of tests, in order to replicate a typical usage of Felt pads under a chair in a domestic environment, of Felt pads compressed against Velcro pads. The Velcro pads being of two types, namely with J-shaped hooks and with mushroom shaped hooks. The Felt pads being of our manufacture and being centrally impregnated with latex. The results of the tests made possible comparing on the one hand the shear resistance of the tested pads combined with J-shaped hook Velcro pads and on the other hand, the

shear resistance of tested pads combined with mushroom shaped hook Velcro pads.

To replicate shear stress, a hydraulic apparatus was used to pull apart the Felt portion from the Velcro portion while measuring the required pull (in lbs) at which the two portions are parting. Four different situations are considered, namely as follows:

TEST 1: Use of a J-shaped hooks in compression

A 1" square Felt pad compressed against a 1" square Velcro pad with J-shaped hooks. A 20 lb load is placed on top of the Felt/Velcro combined pads.

The test showed that the pads came apart with a 28 lb pull.

TEST 2: Use of a mushroom-shaped hooks in compression

A 1" square Felt pad compressed against a 1" square Velcro pad with mushroom-shaped hooks. A 20 lb load is placed on top of the Felt/Velcro combined pads.

The test showed that the pads came apart with a 58 lb pull.

TEST 3: Use of a J-shaped hooks in compression and twisting

A 1" square Felt pad compressed and twisted against a 1" square Velcro pad with J-shaped hooks. The "twisting" motion is added in order to obtain a maximum level of interlocking effect between the two pads. A 20 lb load is placed on top of the Felt/Velcro combined pads.

The test showed that the pads came apart with a 39 lb pull.

TEST 4: Use of a mushroom-shaped hooks in compression and twisting

A 1" square Felt pad compressed and twisted against a 1" square Velcro pad with mushroom-shaped hooks. The "twisting" motion is added in order to obtain a maximum level of interlocking effect between the two pads. A 20 lb load is placed on top of the Felt/Velcro combined pads. **The test showed that the pads came apart with a 95 lb pull.**

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION & MEASUREMENTS

(MADICO's Felt / Mushroom Velcro combination – floor protectors)

Please refer to drawings in patent application publication JAN6, 2005 US2005/0003723A1 FIGs 2A, 2B and 2C and FIGs 3A, 3B and 3C.

FELT PORTION:

Madico's pad (30) consists of soft, small diameter fibers with a reinforced centre (48). The centre portion (48) of the felt pad is reinforced by adding a hardening substance such as latex. The purpose of having a hardened centre portion (48) is to increase the stability of the felt fibers in order that they do not come loose under repeated shear stress and eventually rip apart.

VELCRO PORTION:

Madico's mushroom type Velcro (32) has specifications that are critical in order to obtain a satisfactory level of resistance to shear stress (as demonstrated in the TEST RESULTS attached). The mushroom type Velcro used distinguishes itself from the 'J' type Velcro in the following specifications:

1) Height of hooks: The mushroom type hooks (40) measure **0.025"** in height (compared to **0.055"** in height for the 'J' type hooks (58). It is critical to have the shortest hooks possible in order to avoid the 'bending' of the hooks under shear stress, which diminishes considerably the resistance to such stress (as demonstrated in the TEST RESULTS sent separately in a DVD by UPS).

Diameter of hooks: The mushroom type hooks measure **0.0075"** in diameter (the same as for 'J' hooks). Having the same diameter hooks with a shorter height, which is the case for the mushroom type hooks increases the resistance to shear stress (as demonstrated in the TEST RESULTS sent separately in a DVD by UPS).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were mad with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the Application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Signed,

Marcel Brouard

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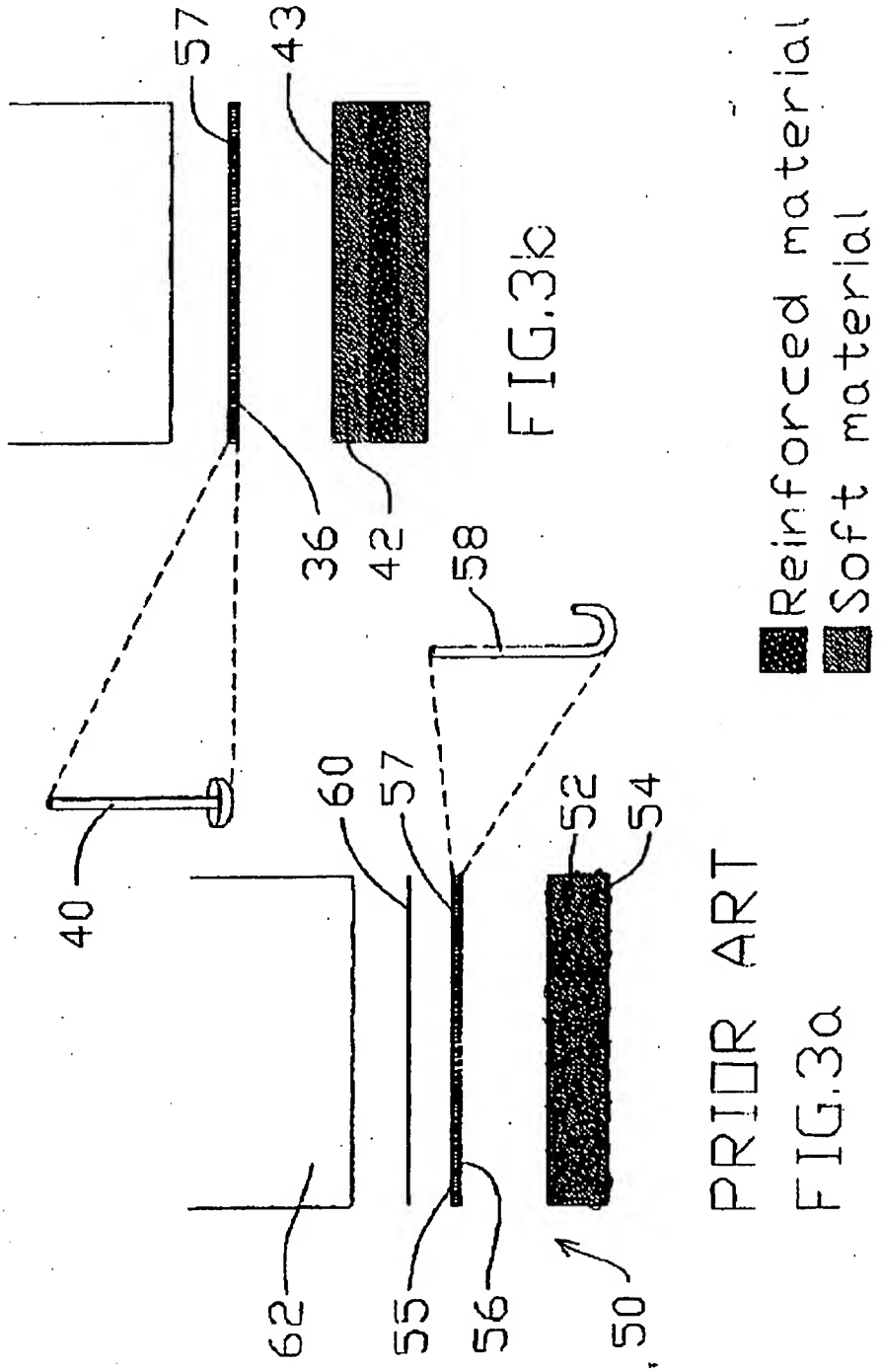


FIG.3b

PRIOR ART

FIG.3a

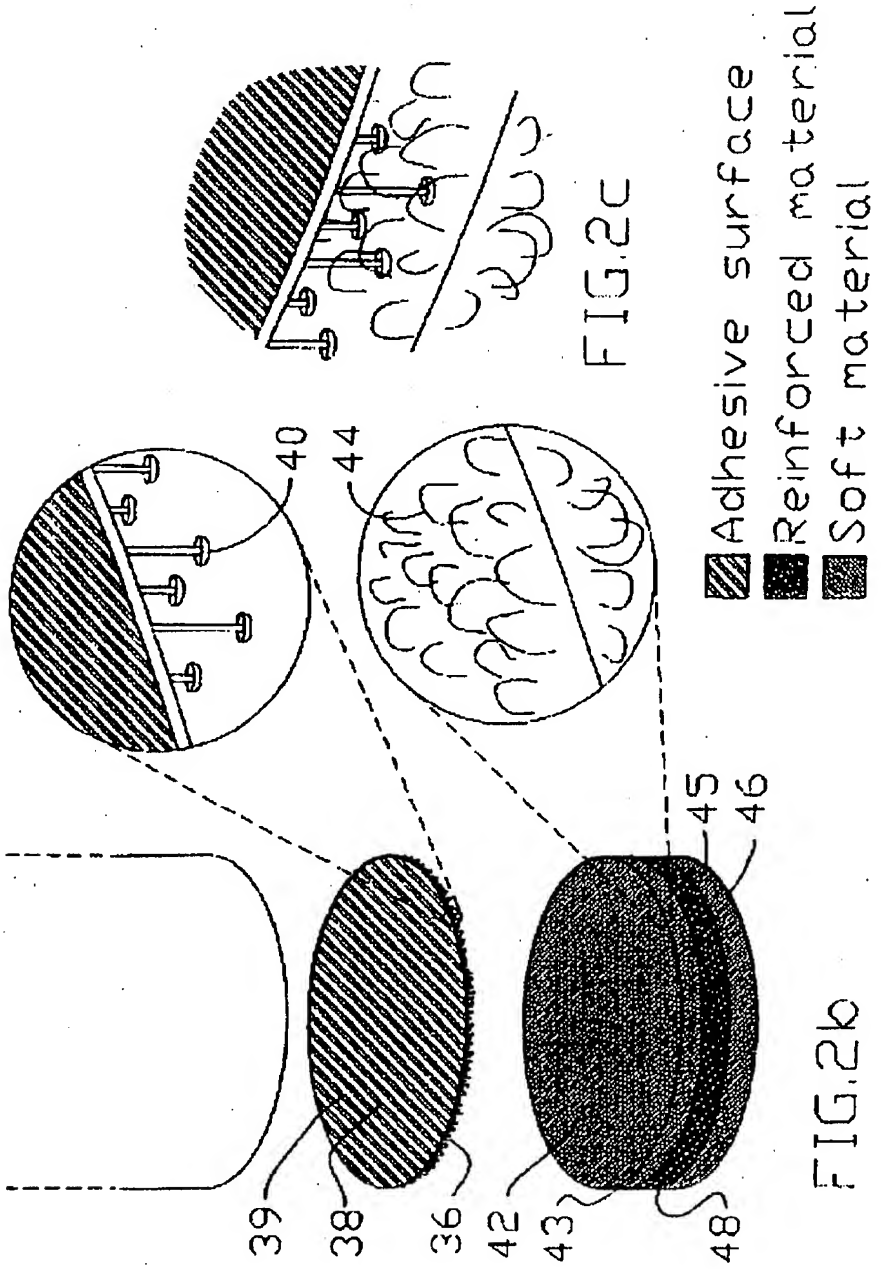
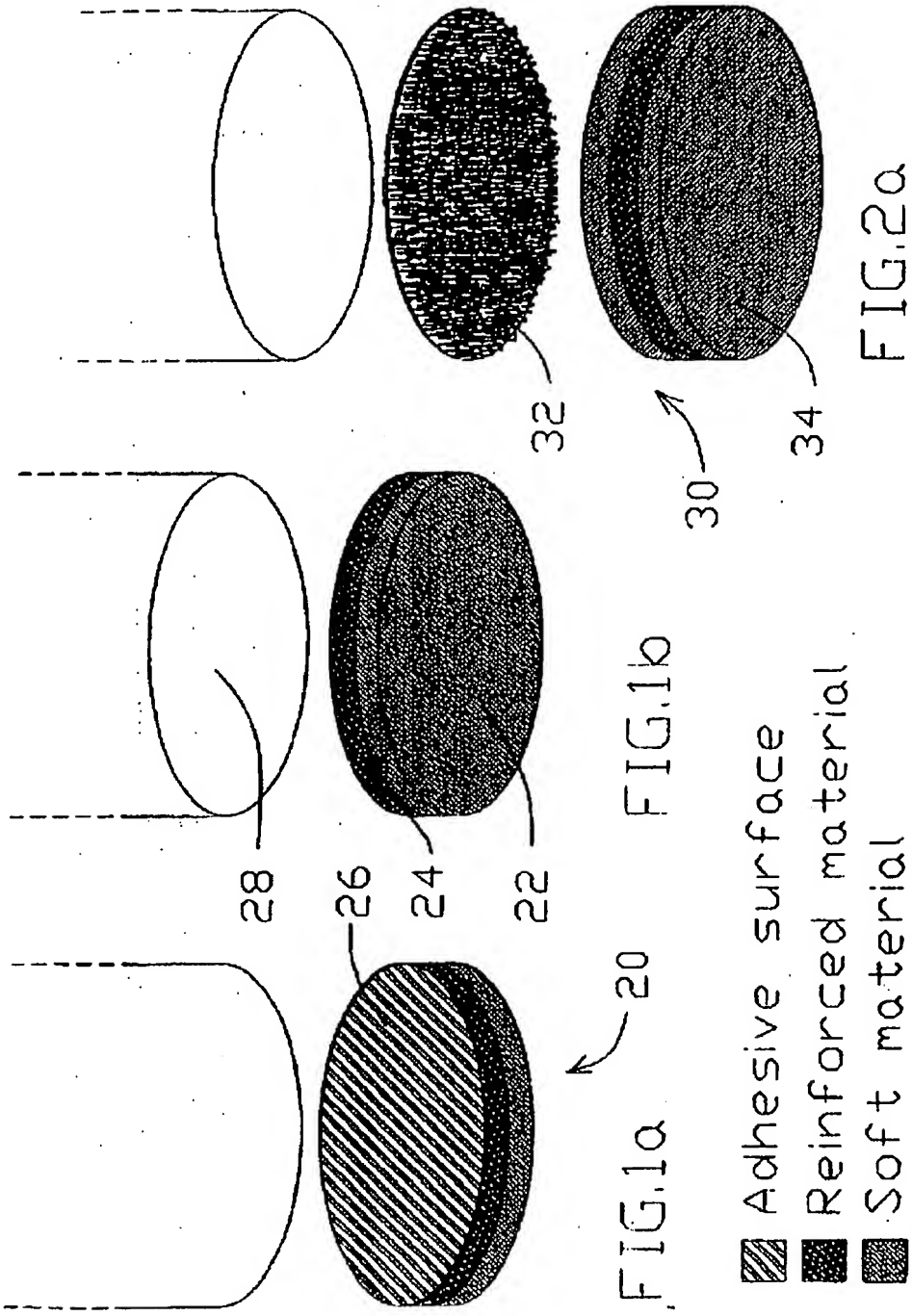

Adhesive surface
Reinforced material
Soft material
40
44
45
46
39
38
36
42
43
48

FIG.2c

FIG.2b


32
34
30
FIG.2a
28
26
24
22
FIG.1b
20
FIG.1a
Adhesive surface
Reinforced material
Soft material